

CHAPTER 54
QUALITY AWARD FOR HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

481—54.1(135C) Purpose. This program is intended to recognize quality health care services being provided to facility residents by Iowa long-term care facilities, residential care facilities, and intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded or persons with mental illness. The specific objective of the program is to establish a governor's award for quality care to recognize health care facilities in the state which demonstrate provision of the highest quality care to residents.

481—54.2(135C) Definitions.

"Advisory council" means the council appointed by the director to review all nominations received by the department. Members of the council shall include the director, or the director's designee, and members selected to represent the general public, health care providers, resident advocates, the long-term care ombudsman's office, residents, and other groups as deemed necessary by the director. When making appointments to the advisory council, the director may consult with the Iowa Partners for Resident Care or other groups representing the nursing home associations and resident advocates that oversee operation of a facility or group of facilities. No member of the advisory council shall be a provider of services to a facility or under contract to provide services to a facility.

"Community living training services" means those activities provided to assist a person to acquire or sustain the knowledge and skills essential to independent functioning to the person's maximum potential in the physical and social environment.

"Department" means the department of inspections and appeals.

"Director" means the director of the department of inspections and appeals, or the director's designee.

"Health care facility" or *"facility"* means a residential care facility, a nursing facility, an intermediate care facility for persons with mental illness, or an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation.

"Nursing care" means those services which can be provided only under the direction of a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse.

"Nursing facility" means an institution or a distinct part of an institution housing three or more individuals not related to the administrator or owner within the third degree of consanguinity, which is primarily engaged in providing health-related care and services including, but not limited to, rehabilitative services, personal care, or community living training services for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours for individuals who, because of a mental or physical condition, require nursing care and other services in addition to room and board.

"Personal care" means assistance with the activities of daily living which the recipient can perform only with difficulty. Examples are help in getting in and out of bed, assistance with personal hygiene and bathing, help with dressing and feeding, and supervision over medications which can be self-administered.

"Rehabilitative services" means services to encourage and assist restoration of optimum mental and physical capabilities of the individual resident of a health care facility.

"Resident" means an individual admitted to a health care facility in the manner prescribed by Iowa Code section 135C.23.

"Social services" means services relating to the psychological and social needs of the individual in adjusting to living in a health care facility, and minimizing stress arising from that circumstance.

481—54.3(135C) Nomination. The director will prepare and make available a nomination application no later than June 30 of each year.

481—54.4(135C) Deadline for submission of nominations. Nominations will be taken during the first quarter of each fiscal year. The deadline for receipt of nominations is September 30 of each year.

481—54.5(135C) Applicant eligibility. Eligible nominations shall be made by a resident, family member of a resident, member of a resident advocacy committee, or another health care facility. A health care facility cannot nominate itself for the award; however, this prohibition shall not apply to facilities with common ownership. Only health care facilities licensed pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 135C shall be eligible for nomination.

481—54.6(135C) Administration. The quality awards program shall be administered by the director or the director's designee.

481—54.7(135C) Priority. All nominations submitted to the department and received on or before the deadline for receipt of nominations shall be given consideration.

481—54.8(135C) Nomination. Applications for the governor's quality award shall include but not be limited to the following information:

54.8(1) The reasons that the nominated facility should be considered.

54.8(2) Any unique or special care or services provided by the facility to its residents. Care or services include any unique or special nursing care, personal care, rehabilitative services, social services, or community living training services provided by the facility for its residents, or involvement with the local community.

54.8(3) Activities conducted by the facility to enhance the highest quality of life for its residents.

481—54.9(135C) Evaluation. The director shall appoint an advisory council to review all nominations received by the department. The members shall review all nominations and select finalists based upon the material(s) provided in the nomination forms. The council shall also consider the following factors in making its selections:

54.9(1) The facility report card completed pursuant to Iowa Code section 135C.20A.

54.9(2) Any unique services provided by a facility to its residents to improve the quality of care in the facility.

54.9(3) Any information submitted by resident advocacy committee members, residents, a resident's family members, or facility staff with regard to the quality of care provided by the facility to its residents.

54.9(4) Whether the facility accepts residents for whom costs are paid under Iowa Code chapter 249A.

481—54.10(135C) Selection of finalists. When reviewing the nominations, the advisory committee shall rank all facilities according to the above criteria. The ranked list of facilities shall be provided to the director for further review and consideration. When making the final selection, no more than two facilities from each congressional district shall be recognized as an award winner.

481—54.11(135C) Awarding of certificate. Prior to the final selection of facilities, representatives from the department and the governor's office will tour all finalists to determine the winners. The department will select the winners of the governor's quality award from the facilities recommended by the advisory council. The winners will receive a framed certificate in recognition of their designation as a quality health care provider of the year. The certificate shall be awarded by the governor or the governor's designee to the facility administrator in a recognition ceremony held at the facility's place of business.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 135C.20B.

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CHAPTER 55

Reserved